

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: April 9, 2007
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 774
AUTHOR: M. Ridley-Thomas

BILL SUMMARY: Hazardous Packaging

Existing law prohibit the use of packaging that contains specified regulated metals, but exempts packaging that meets certain conditions. One of these conditions is that the packaging does not include material that contains more than 5.0 parts per million (ppm) of lead. This bill would revise the condition, as it applies to glass bottles, to specify that the exemption applies only if the bottle does not contain lead in excess of 0.06 percent by weight of the total nonvolatile content of the paint or dried paint film.

The bill's intent is to reduce lead exposure from various brands of glass soda bottles imported into California from countries including Mexico, India and Panama. These bottles are often decorated with paint containing high levels of lead.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Toxics states that the cost of the bill would be minor and absorbable.

COMMENTS

Finance is neutral on this bill because it would have no fiscal impact.

The author states that the increasing popularity of imported sodas are becoming a health risk as consumers become exposed to greater levels of lead through dermal absorption when they touch the bottles or hand-to-mouth contact when they eat hand-held food items like sandwiches after touching the bottles. The paint used to decorate these bottles can contain levels of lead several hundred times more than the maximum permissible level specified by the Federal Consumer Product Safety Act for products manufactured in the United States.

Lead has been documented to be both a neurotoxin and a carcinogen, resulting in serious and sometimes irreversible behavioral, developmental, and neurological damage including impaired learning and birth defects. Moreover, even low levels of lead can result in adverse health effects, presenting serious health risks particularly for young children and pregnant women.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	CO	PROP								
	RV	98	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009	FC	2009-2010		
3960/ToxicSubCtrl	SO	No	-----			See Comment	-----		0014	
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>									
0014	Hazardous Waste Control Account									

Analyst/Principal (0622)	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS	Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)
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